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From: John Vandenberg, Ph.D.
Sent: Sun 2/8/2015 4:23:30 PM
Subject: NexGen paper comments by J Vandenberg
Nexgen paper Vandenberg comments Feb 7 2015.docx

Hi Ila,

I finally sat down for a sustained read-through (I'd read parts but could never read through all at once like I've now done). I tried to give it a critical read to make sure I understood everything (within reason).

You'll see quite a bit of editing and many comments in TrackChanges, but nonetheless it reads very well and is quite understandable and informative. I didn't extend it any by my additions, or at least not much at all (I did some deletions too)

I think the Conclusions at the beginning needs to say something important, which I found in the Conclusions at the end but not in the beginning.

I edited some things to reduce exuberance and you may disagree with that; not trying to diminish importance but also don't want readers to go away with the idea we have more confidence in the new data than at least I have.

I flagged some terminology to think about carefully, including 'traditional' and 'approaches'

The application of new data to estimate quantitative potency seemed murky to me; I flagged this.

The final pages have some kind of format problem, and my computer crashed twice while going through this (which is highly unusual for my home computer), so you may have some wierd Word gremlins in the manuscript.

The final supplemental table goes into causal statements; I may need to re-read this to understand why you've added causal conclusions like 'likely and suggestive' but not 'inadequate', etc. The way it reads now every instance is at least suggestive, which seems odd to me. The purpose and scope to which these statements is applied isn't very clear in the manuscript itself, plus my brain was tired by the time I got to this part.

Really good work. This is as needed - a precis that describes what was done, the findings, and the implications. I really wanted to see this in a publicatn and its is Very important and Well written.

Congratulations!

Talk to you soon.

John